

Message Text

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44

ACTION AGR-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-12 INR-11

LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SP-03 STR-08 TRSE-00 SWF-02

CIEP-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 TAR-02 DRC-01 L-03 /102 W

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R 041332Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3037

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STOCKHOLM 4453

PASS TO AGRICULTURE (SINDELAR AND STROBEL)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AGR, ETRD, SW

SUBJECT: IMPORT LEVIES ON POULTRY AND POTATOES

REF: STATE 207569, STOCKHOLM 2870

1. GOS HAS NOT RESPONDED OFFICIALLY TO OUR AIDE MEMOIRE. HOWEVER, REPRESENTATIVE OF FEDERATION OF SWEDISH FARMERS RAISED MATTER WITH AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE ON AUGUST 27, AND, ON A VERY PERSONAL BASIS, MADE SEVERAL POINTS REPORTED IN LETTER TO STROBEL, AGR, WITH COPY TO CANNEY, STATE. AG ATTACHE HAS SINCE DISCUSSED SUBJECT A SECOND TIME WITH SAME REPRESENTATIVE. THE MESSAGE WE GET APPEARS TO BE:
(A) "US GOVERNMENT MADE RIGHT MOVE IN SUBMITTING AIDE MEMOIRE;
(B) THE SUBJECT IS BEING GIVEN HIGH GOS CONSIDERATION;
(C) THE OUTCOME IS VERY UNCERTAIN BUT THERE IS SOME PROSPECTS DECISION WILL BE AT LEAST A LITTLE MORE FAVORABLE TO US POSITION;
AND
(D) IT WOULD BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE FOR USG TO PRESS CASE FURTHER WITH MFA AT THIS TIME."

2. IN VIEW OF THIS CONVERSATION, EMBASSY INTENDS TO HOLD OFF PRESSING MFA FOR RESPONSE FOR TIME BEING.

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3. LAST WEEK A REPRESENTATIVE OF US POULTRY INDUSTRY MET WITH PRESIDENT OF SWEDEN'S LARGEST PRODUCER OF TURKEY AND TURKEY PRODUCTS. MEETING HELD WITH CONCURRENCE OF REPRESENTATIVE OF FEDERATION OF SWEDISH FARMERS. US REPRESENTATIVE EXPLAINED THAT US SALES EFFORT WAS, IN BALANCE, IN THE INTEREST OF SWEDISH INDUSTRY. SWEDISH REPRESENTATIVE SEEMED IMPRESSED. THOUGH SWEDISH REP MADE NO PROMISE, US REPRESENTATIVE FELT SUBSEQUENT INDUSTRY DISCUSSIONS WITH GOS MIGHT BE MORE FAVORABLE TO US POSITION.

4. FOLLOWING ARE COMMENTS ON YOUR QUESTION AS TO EFFECT OF NEW LEVIES ON SWEDISH IMPORTS.

A. TURKEY PRODUCTS

IMPORTS FROM US IN METRIC TONS HAVE BEEN: CY 1973 - 111; FIRST HALF 1974 - 23; AND JULY 1974 - 5. THUS, DELINING TREND APPEARS TO HAVE CONTINUED. DECLINE MAY IN PART BE DUE TO FACT THAT BEEF AND PORK PRICES ARE FROZEN (AND SUBSIDIZED) WHILE PRICES OF POULTRY ARE NOT. AS RESULT, POULTRY PRICES ARE ONLY A LITTLE LOWER THAN BEEF PRICES.

B. INSTANT MASHED POTATOES

SWEDISH IMPORTERS BOUGHT HEAVILY FIRST HALF OF CY 74 IN ANTICIPATION JULY 1 LEVY INCREASE. FIGURES SUBSEQUENT TO JULY 1 NOT YET AVAILABLE. ONE MAJOR IMPORTER REPORTS THAT SOME OF HIS CUSTOMERS HAVE "REACTED NEGATIVELY BUT, SO FAR NOT DROPPED OUT."

STRAUSZ-HUPE

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Message Attributes

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